

# NGDA Dataset Report

**Official NGDA Title:** Outer Continental Shelf Submerged Lands Act Boundary - Alaska Region NAD83

**Metadata Record Title:** Outer Continental Shelf Submerged Lands Act Boundary - Alaska Region NAD83

**A-16 NGDA Theme:** Water - Oceans and Coasts

## Executive NGDA Theme Champion(s):

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## Metadata:

**Registration Status:** Complete

**Registered on** 3/8/2015

**GeoPlatform Link\*:** <https://www.geoplatform.gov/node/243/7bb3c3f8-a909-423f-a972-7ebaadd74ac3>

**Data.gov Metadata Link\*:** <http://catalog.data.gov/harvest/object/da04d512-86fb-4726-9380-6831ff206273/html>

\*If the metadata has been updated and reharvested after publication of this report, the link may no longer be valid. The dataset may be searched for manually in Data.gov or GeoPlatform.gov.

# NGDA Lifecycle Maturity Assessment (LMA) Report

## Time Frame:

Baseline assessment responses include dataset activities from 1998 to 2015.

## LMA Submission:

**Status:** Complete

**Date:** 9/21/2015

**Extension Requested:** No

## LMA Reviewer(s):

**Supervisor:** Did not review

**Theme Lead:** Tony.Lavoi@noaa.gov

**Executive Champion:** Did not review

**SAOGI\*:** Did not review

**Other:** Did not review

## LMA Verifier:

**Name:** Tony Lavoi

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## Attachments:

To get access to any attachments referenced in the report, email the LMA Help Desk at [NGDA\\_LMA\\_help@fgdc.gov](mailto:NGDA_LMA_help@fgdc.gov). Please use the subject "Dataset Report Attachment(s)" and indicate the associated official NGDA title.

\*Senior Agency Official for Geospatial Information (SAOGI)

## Lifecycle Maturity Assessment (LMA) Summary

### Overall Maturity:

**Transition; Transformation**

General Questions: 82%

**Mature; Consistent**

Stage 1 - Define/Plan: 36%

**Transition; Transformation**

Stage 2 - Inventory/Evaluate: 0%

**No Activity**

Stage 3 - Obtain: 80%

**Mature; Consistent**

Stage 4 - Access: 50%

**Managed; Predictable**

Stage 5 - Maintain: 28%

**Planned; Initial Development**

Stage 6 - Use/Evaluate: 66%

**Managed; Predictable**

Stage 7 - Archive: 33%

**Transition; Transformation**

## NGDA Dataset Maturity Definitions:

How To Calculate Maturity: [https://www.geoplatform.gov/sites/default/files/How\\_to\\_Calculate\\_Maturity.pdf](https://www.geoplatform.gov/sites/default/files/How_to_Calculate_Maturity.pdf)

Maturity	Maturity Characteristics for All Lifecycle Stages
Optimized; Established Rank = 5	Dataset meets virtually all business needs of all users. The dataset is considered authoritative by owners and secondary users. It is curated across all stages of the approved lifecycle. Future needs are defined on a regular basis and resources for addressing both current and future business requirements are available.
Mature; Consistent Rank = 4	Dataset meets all the business needs of the primary owner and most of the secondary users. The dataset is curated and used as authoritative by the primary owner. Dataset is used widely by secondary users actively engaged in sustaining the dataset. Future needs are identified and steps are planned to address these. All stages are supported and reviewed on a recurring basis. The dataset is well managed in relation to the approved lifecycle.
Managed; Predictable Rank = 3	Dataset meets a significant number of the business needs of the primary owner and is widely used as an authoritative resource by secondary users. Benchmark activities are occurring in at least four of the approved lifecycle stages. Management practices in relation to the approved lifecycle is moderate but consistent. Dataset is integrating changing business requirements in lifecycle stages impacting overall maturity.
Transition; Transformation Rank = 2	Dataset meets business needs of the primary owner and has moderate use by secondary users. Benchmark activities are occurring in at least three stages. Efforts to integrate funding, include partners, and obtain data are not supported in a sustained manner. Management practices in relation to the stages of the approved lifecycle is limited.
Planned; Initial Development Rank = 1	Dataset limited in meeting business needs of the primary owner. Benchmark activities in the approved lifecycle are just starting to consider secondary uses, partnerships are forming to support additional dataset uses. Dataset development is in a very early stage. Minimal or limited management against the benchmarks in the approved lifecycle.
No Activity Rank = no activity	Dataset meets project or local business needs of the primary owner, secondary or additional uses or users were not considered, not recognized as an authoritative data or is part of a similar dataset. Not managed to any of the benchmarks in the approved lifecycle.

## General Questions for All Stages

1) Is there a recurring process to obtain funding for all lifecycle stages of this dataset?

**Answer:** Funding support is part of agency budget on a recurring basis, funding is consistent and tied to business processes, and supports all lifecycle stages.

**Justification Comment:**

**Attachment(s):** 0

The Submerged Lands Act (SLA) Boundary defines the seaward limit of state ownership and jurisdiction, and the landward limit of federal ownership and jurisdiction. Leasing of the energy resources (i.e. oil, gas, minerals, wind, wave) in federal waters cannot occur unless the SLA Boundary has been determined and mapped. Because the SLA Boundary is so essential to the needs of the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM), the duties associated with determining and mapping the SLA Boundary are included in the Position Descriptions for BOEM Cartographers. These same duties are also described as critical elements in the Employee Performance Appraisal Plans for BOEM Cartographers.

2) Is there a process in place to ensure that open government and transparency guidelines are followed in all lifecycle stages for this dataset?

**Answer:** Process is published as appropriate with respect to sensitivity requirements, process is transparent, published appropriately.

**Justification Comment:**

**Attachment(s):** 0

The SLA Boundary is located three nautical miles seaward of the coastal baseline of the U.S. (Exception: the SLA Boundary is located nine nautical miles seaward of the coastal baseline of Texas and Florida in the Gulf of Mexico, and also Puerto Rico). BOEM mapping products such as Official Protraction Diagrams and Supplemental Official Block Diagrams reflect the location of the SLA Boundary. The natural processes of accretion and avulsion cause changes to the coastal baseline. These changes will periodically trigger the need to revise the SLA Boundary that is shown on the official BOEM maps. BOEM will publish a Notice in the Federal Register that announces the availability (for download) of the revised maps on a specific BOEM web page. The Notice will describe the specific maps that were revised, as well as the reason why the maps were revised.

3) Are there processes and tools in place so that staff are sufficiently knowledgeable to ensure a continuity of the dataset for all stages of the lifecycle, especially during staffing transitions?

**Answer:** Processes and tools to ensure dataset continuity are under development.

**Justification Comment:**

**Attachment(s):** 0

The SLA Boundary for all of the BOEM Regions (Gulf of Mexico, Alaska, Pacific, Atlantic/Caribbean) was generated using mapping software that was developed in-house by the Minerals Management Service, the predecessor bureau of BOEM. Starting in 2016, the BOEM Mapping and Boundary Branch (MBB) will be using the Esri, Inc. ArcGIS suite of mapping software to generate the SLA Boundary. Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) will be written and implemented to ensure the process is accurate, efficient, and continuous.

## STAGE 1 - Define/Plan

4) Are user and business requirements defined and formalized?

**Answer:** A recurring process exists for gathering partners/ stakeholders requirements is in place and is in the beginning stages of implementation.

**Justification Comment:**

**Attachment(s):** 0

From 1983 – 2006, the MMS worked with interested coastal states towards reaching agreement as to where the SLA Boundary was located. This meant evaluating the coastal baseline, specifically, the most seaward points along the Mean Lower Low Water line. The criteria used by MMS did not always

coincide with that of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Marine Charting Division, which identified points that dried completely at mean lower low tide. In consultation with a state, MMS would use points that didn't dry completely. NOAA presented their recommendations, shown on nautical charts, to the National Baseline Committee, which decided on the specific points that would become the National Baseline for the U.S. This resulted in two different baselines for some areas of the U.S.: the National Baseline and the MMS Baseline.

A change in practice has begun at BOEM whereby the MBB will work with NOAA on identifying the coastal baseline points prior to a meeting of the National Baseline Committee. BOEM will not show preferential treatment towards states by using points that are not acceptable to agencies represented on the National Baseline Committee.

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**5)** How are partners/stakeholders involved in the requirements collection process?

**Answer:** Ad hoc process is used for involving Partners/stakeholders in identifying requirements.

**Justification Comment:**

**Attachment(s):** 0

Because some states have a history of working with the MMS on determining points used for the coastal baseline, a process will continue to allow input from the particular states on any future revisions made. However, the primary effort going forward for BOEM will be to work with NOAA to come to agreement on identifying points to serve as the coastal baseline.

If BOEM and a coastal state agree on the location of the respective SLA boundary, the U.S. Supreme Court can permanently immobilize ("fix") the SLA boundary. This provides certainty for offshore leasing purposes. The process of fixing the SLA boundary includes the signing of all of the Supplemental Official Block Diagrams by an appropriate representative of the state, and the preparation of the decree for review by the Department of Justice. The decree is ultimately presented to the U.S. Supreme Court for approval.

In 2000, the SLA boundary for the entire north coast of Alaska (the Beaufort and Chukchi Seas) was fixed by decree.

<http://www.justice.gov/osg/brief/original-united-states-v-alaska-joint-motion-entry-decree>

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**6)** Is there a quality assurance process for the dataset?

**Answer:** Process under development.

**Justification Comment:**

**Attachment(s):** 0

Quality control measures will be included in the SOP for SLA Boundary generation.

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**7)** Is there a process to evaluate the sensitivity, privacy, and confidentiality of this dataset?

**Answer:** Process to define under development.

**Justification Comment:**

**Attachment(s):** 0

Process to evaluate the sensitivity, privacy, and confidentiality of SLA boundaries will be included in the SOP for SLA Boundary generation.

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**8)** Are defined data standards used in collecting, processing, and/or rendering the data?

**Answer:** Standards being researched and/or under development.

**Justification Comment:**

**Attachment(s):** 0

While BOEM has defined measures for data precision, there are not yet formal data standards.

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## STAGE 2 - Inventory/Evaluate

**9)** Is there a process for determining if data necessary to meet requirements already exist from other sources (either within or outside the agency) before collecting or acquiring new data?

**Answer:** Process is under development to identify datasets promoting reuse and reduce unnecessary duplication.

**Justification Comment:**

**Attachment(s):** 0

BOEM consults regularly with NOAA and USGS for coastline data that could contribute to the development of the SLA Boundary. Once the boundary has been generated, the dataset is recognized as authoritative.

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### STAGE 3 - Obtain

**10)** Is there a process for obtaining data in relation to this dataset?

**Answer:** Process is fully implemented, reviewed and updated on a regular basis.

**Justification Comment:**

**Attachment(s):** 0

BOEM consults regularly with NOAA and USGS for coastline data that could contribute to the development of the SLA Boundary. Once the boundary has been generated, the dataset is recognized as authoritative.

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**11)** Is the metadata in a FGDC endorsed geospatial metadata standard?

**Answer:** Metadata is available in a format endorsed by the FGDC but does not fully describe the information needed to make the dataset discoverable, accessible, and usable.

**Justification Comment:**

**Attachment(s):** 0

Dataset and metadata are available for download on <http://www.metadata.boem.gov/geospatial/>

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**12)** How complete is the geographic coverage as defined in the requirements for the dataset?

**Part 1 Answer:** Business requirements for cyclic updates identified and a process is in place.

**Part 2 Answer:** Dataset presently about 75% complete per current requirement.

**Justification Comment:**

**Attachment(s):** 0

There are areas of Alaska where the SLA Boundary has not yet been generated. These areas are remote and not currently in demand for energy projects.

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### STAGE 4 - Access

**13)** Do you have a process for providing users access to the data in an open digital machine readable format?

**Answer:** Process is developed and documentation started.

**Justification Comment:**

**Attachment(s):** 0

The SLA Boundary datasets are in ArcGIS shapefile format, and available for download on <http://www.boem.gov/Maps-and-GIS-Data/>

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### STAGE 5 - Maintain

**14)** Is there a maintenance process for updating and storing the dataset?

**Answer:** Dataset maintenance process is under development.

**Justification Comment:**

**Attachment(s):** 0

The maintenance process for this dataset will be included in the SOP for SLA Boundary creation.

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**15)** Is there an error correction process as part of dataset maintenance?

**Answer:** Error correction process under development.

**Justification Comment:**

**Attachment(s):** 0

Error correction process will be included in the SOP document.

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### STAGE 6 - Use/Evaluate

**16)** Is there a process to determine if the dataset meets user needs?

**Answer:** Process is being developed to determine if user needs are being addressed or met.

**Justification Comment:**

**Attachment(s):** 0

NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service has discussed with BOEM the possibility of using the SLA Boundary for enforcement of fisheries regulations. The specific user needs of NOAA may require a change to the attribution scheme of the dataset.

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**17)** Is there a process to provide users information on how to access and properly use the dataset?

**Answer:** Process is fully implemented supporting access and proper use, process is reviewed on a recurring basis.

**Justification Comment:**

**Attachment(s):** 0

Access to the data is made available on <http://www.boem.gov/Maps-and-GIS-Data/> Proper use of the data is described in the metadata.

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**18)** Are the business processes and management practices assessed to meet changing technology?

**Answer:** Assessment process implementation started for taking advantage of changing technology.

**Justification Comment:**

**Attachment(s):** 0

The SLA Boundary for all of the BOEM Regions (Alaska, Pacific, Gulf of Mexico, Atlantic/Caribbean) was generated using mapping software that was developed in-house by the Minerals Management Service, the predecessor bureau of BOEM. Starting in 2016, the BOEM Mapping and Boundary Branch (MBB) will be using the Esri, Inc. ArcGIS suite of mapping software to generate the SLA Boundary. Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) will be written and implemented to ensure the process is accurate and efficient.

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## STAGE 7 - Archive

**19)** Is there an archiving process for the dataset?

**Answer:** Archival and/or disposition processes are in development.

**Justification Comment:**

**Attachment(s):** 0

BOEM is transferring the original nautical charts, topographic maps, and hydrographic surveys (approximately 700 total) that were used as the source for the SLA Boundary datasets, to NARA for permanent storage. A similar process will be documented for transfer of any digital SLA boundaries that have been superseded or otherwise made null and void.